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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/672,493	09/26/2003	Thomas Berger	1685-3	3531

7590 04/17/2008  
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EXAMINER
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CUMARASEGARAN, VERN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3629

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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04/17/2008

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/672,493	<b>Applicant(s)</b> BERGER, THOMAS	
	<b>Examiner</b> VERN CUMARASEGARAN	<b>Art Unit</b> 3629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 1 uses the term "...based on the comparison." It is unclear what criteria is used in determining probable escheat jurisdiction. Furthermore, it is unclear what is meant by the term "certified." Information regarding the certifying authority should be provided in order to properly define the bounds of the claim.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McDonald (US 7,054,833 B1).

As to claim 1, McDonald shows interrogating a data file of property owner addresses (col.12 lines 32-35); comparing the addresses to certified data base addresses certified to be in existence (col.9 lines 1-4). McDonald does not expressly show assigning a probable escheat jurisdiction based on the comparison. However,

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McDonald does show determining the address of the previous owner and contacting the owner at the last known address. Examiner takes official notice that it is old and well known in the art to assign a probable escheat jurisdiction based on the last known address of the property owner (Texas v. New Jersey [379 U.S. 674 (1965)]). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the method of assigning probable escheat jurisdiction based on the comparison since the claimed invention is merely a combination of old elements and in the combination each element merely would have performed the same function as it did separately, and one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that the results of the combination were predictable.

As to claims 2-6, examiner takes official notice that it is old and well known in the art to determine an error range or confidence code for calculations and editing information such as addresses based on comparison.

As to claims 7-18, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use the various comparison editing methods in determining the escheat jurisdiction since the claimed invention is merely a combination of old known elements.

As to claim 19, McDonald shows generating a report (col.9 lines 50-60).

As to claim 20, McDonald shows using computer coupled to the internet (Fig.1)

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Smith; Charlotte A. et al. US 20060036407 A1 Pharmaceutical waste  
identification system

Singh, Somesh et al. US 20020174017 A1 Developing property tax data

Campbell; Harold US 7043448 B2 Organizing and managing transaction-  
related tax information

Bent; Bruce et al. US 20060224480 A1 Systems and methods for loan  
management with variable security arrangements

Deane, Beverly Floyd et al. US 20040243507 A1 Methods and apparatus for  
real estate foreclosure bid computation and presentation

McKee; Barbara Jane Alspach et al. US 6272482 B1 Managing business rules  
using jurisdictions

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the  
examiner should be directed to VERN CUMARASEGARAN whose telephone number is  
(571)270-3273. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:30am-  
5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's  
supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on 571-272-6812. The fax phone number for  
the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Vc

/John G. Weiss/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3689